

IN THIS ISSUE: West London Corporate Leaders Action Group Launched | WLB takes residence at Venture X | BF+ Cohort two registration now open | WLB at MIPIM | And more...

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WLB CEO Update

March 2022



Dear colleague,

Just as our working lives were starting to return to normal - and the WLB team enjoying residency at Venture X White City - we have been hit by the grim reality of war breaking out on Europe's eastern border in Ukraine. I know from conversations with many of you in recent days the profound sense of shock and sadness you feel - and the desire to contribute to emergency relief in Eastern Europe and/or offer support for refugees reaching the UK.

Of course in West London our work to rebuild our economy post-pandemic must continue. In the **Education & Skills** space we have just published our new [West London Labour Market Insights Report](#) (Q4 2021) and we were delighted that three local bids for Mayor's Academies Hubs were successful spanning [green skills](#), [film & television](#) and health.

Those of you with a keen interest in **Innovation** will want to read the [Project Napkin interim report](#) (led by Heathrow and funded by Innovate UK). Also keep an eye out in the coming weeks for news on the recipients of awards from the Ealing Pioneers Fund, Hillingdon Enterprise Fund and Hounslow Green Innovation & Growth Fund, all of which are keeping the team very busy.

For those of you keen to do more to reduce your **environmental footprint** to net zero, do take the opportunity to [register today](#) for our second cohort of 2022 on [Better Futures+](#) due to start in May.

Read on for plenty more news and insights from across our membership and strategic partners in West London - And don't forget to book onto our [Spring Property Lunch](#) on Friday 1 April!

With best wishes,



Andrew Dakers

Chief Executive

The latest headlines from West London Business



For the first time since 2019, WLB will be at MIPIM in Cannes from 15-17 March.

With our usual panache, we are hosting an invitation-only breakfast for West London Property & Construction sector attendees - seats are going fast! If you are attending MIPIM and wish to meet with us, please contact

Amelia.Grant@westlondon.com



West London Business has launched its Corporate Leaders Action Group.

The group convened by John Holland-Kaye (CEO, Heathrow), which first came together in June 2021, is driving a business-led response to the significant economic contraction West London faced as a result of the pandemic. The initiative has been coordinated by West London Business and supported by the West London Alliance.

[Read more >>](#)

WLB Award winners revealed - Alexanders crowned Company of the Year



On Thursday 10 February 2022, guests from across all industries descended upon Twickenham Stadium to celebrate business resilience at The West London Business Awards 2022. The big winners of the night were Alexanders Removals and Storage of Park Royal, who claimed the prestigious title of West London Company of the Year 2022; in addition to winning 3 other awards. [Read more >>](#)

Business support

Brent Council is running a 'Meet the Buyer' event on 31 March 2022. Buyers who have contracts in the construction sector with values ranging from £25k - £100k or social value commitments in Brent are invited to take part. Buyers will be able to engage with a variety of local suppliers in pre-arranged interview slots that will help you grow your supplier list and register suppliers that could deliver your contracts.

[Find out more and register >>](#)

A new initiative from Bunnel University, Research, Innovate and Emerge (RIEm), is designed to support SMEs in strengthening capacity for collaborative research and innovation (R&I), growing your business and developing sustainable innovations for improved socioeconomic outcomes. The service will be available until 31 July 2022.

[Find out more >>](#)

Member news

Meet the new home of WLB – Venture X White City

With the lifting of Covid restrictions and working life slowly returning to normal, West London Business has taken residence at the newly opened VentureX White City.

[More >>](#)

Free training for Hospitality, Retail and Social Care businesses

Training from New London Educational Trust focuses on the Health and

Policy watch

TfL have released their high-level 'strategic narrative' for the West London Orbital, a proposed overground rail link in West London. Initially released in October 2021, It aims to summarise ongoing feasibility work and technical assessments within the wider west London context. As a working document its contents are constantly under review.

[Read more >>](#)

Brent's new Local Plan sets a clear vision for the future and will guide the development of the borough through to 2041. The 2019-2041 Local Plan which was agreed by Brent's Full Council in February, is an important planning document that will help deliver the council's priorities.

[Read more >>](#)

In her latest editorial from The Bank of England, Lai Wah Co, Bank of England Deputy Agent for Greater London addresses actions taken by the bank to act on rising inflation.

[Read more >>](#)

A new report published by the British Business Bank, *Smaller businesses and the transition to net zero*, highlights the potential collective influence of UK smaller businesses and the considerable contribution they could make to wider net zero objectives through changes to reduce their carbon footprint.

[Read more >>](#)

Barnet Council's Sustainability Strategy Framework has been published. This lays out the groundwork for their new Sustainability Strategy, and was unanimously approved by Policy & Resources Committee in December 2021. For an overview of the commitments set out within this framework please read the summary document.

[Read more >>](#)

Social Care, Retail and Hospitality sectors and is designed to support employees who live in the West London boroughs to gain accredited units from recognised national awarding bodies.

[More >>](#)

Feedback Sought for 2k Tiger Property Golf Club

2k Tiger is looking at organising a number of events to connect different companies in the property sector. Starting with an invitation only golf club, they are looking for feedback from potential participants.

[More >>](#)

Business Volunteers needed for SEN engagement

Business Education Events (BEE) is a leading specialist provider of employer events, enterprise, and mentoring programmes for 5-18 year olds - and is in need of volunteers to support their delivery.

[More >>](#)

HSBC UK launches £500M Green SME Fund

Heathrow airport launches sustainability plan

Heathrow 2.0 - the airport's net-zero and sustainability strategy - was unveiled in Febuary, detailing the goals Heathrow will work towards over the next decade. The refreshed environmental strategy explains how Heathrow is striving to achieve zero carbon aviation by 2050.

[Read the report >>](#)

HSBC UK has announced the launch of a £500m Green SME Fund as part of its commitment to support businesses of all sizes to transition and thrive in a low carbon economy.

[More >>](#)

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